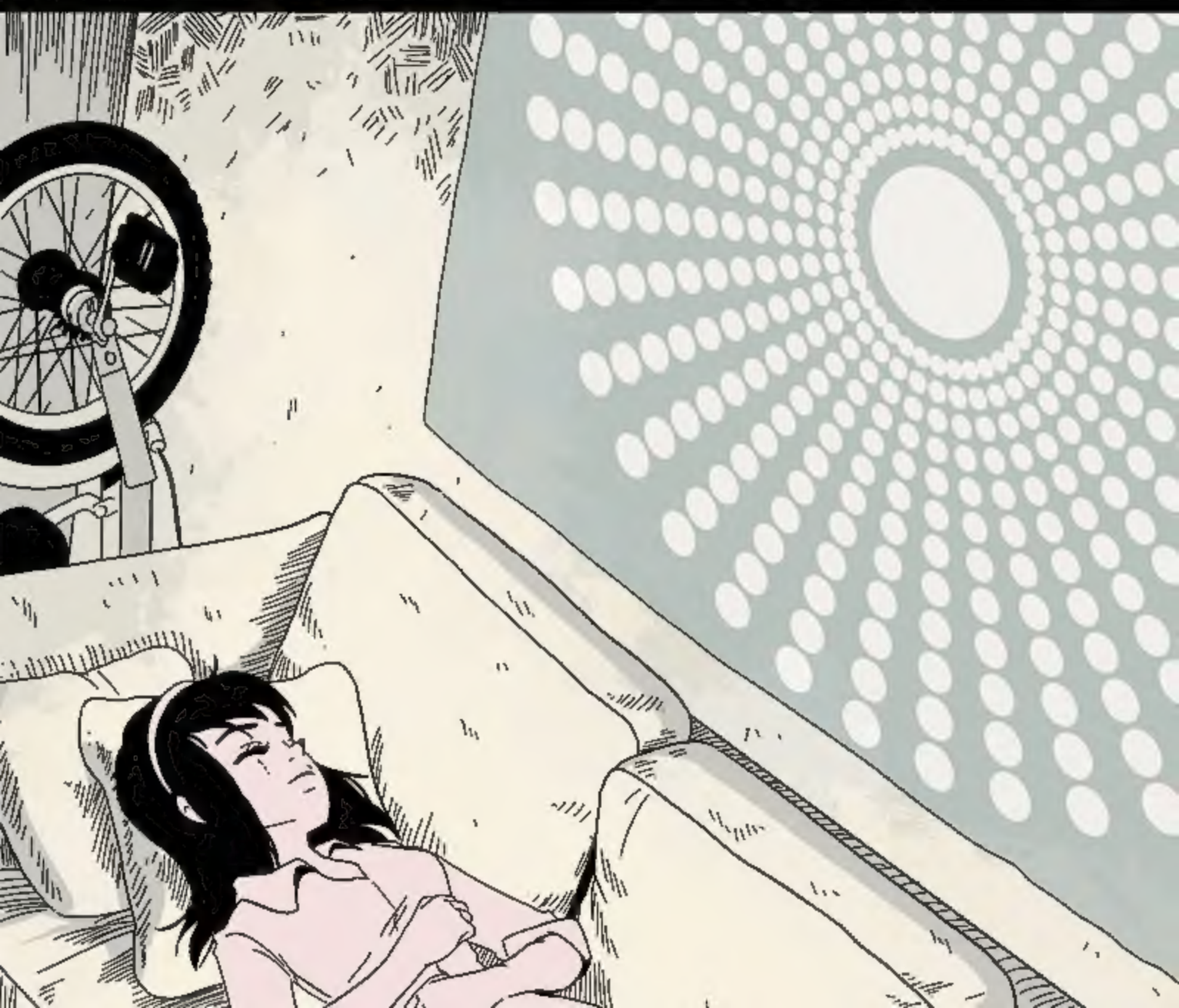
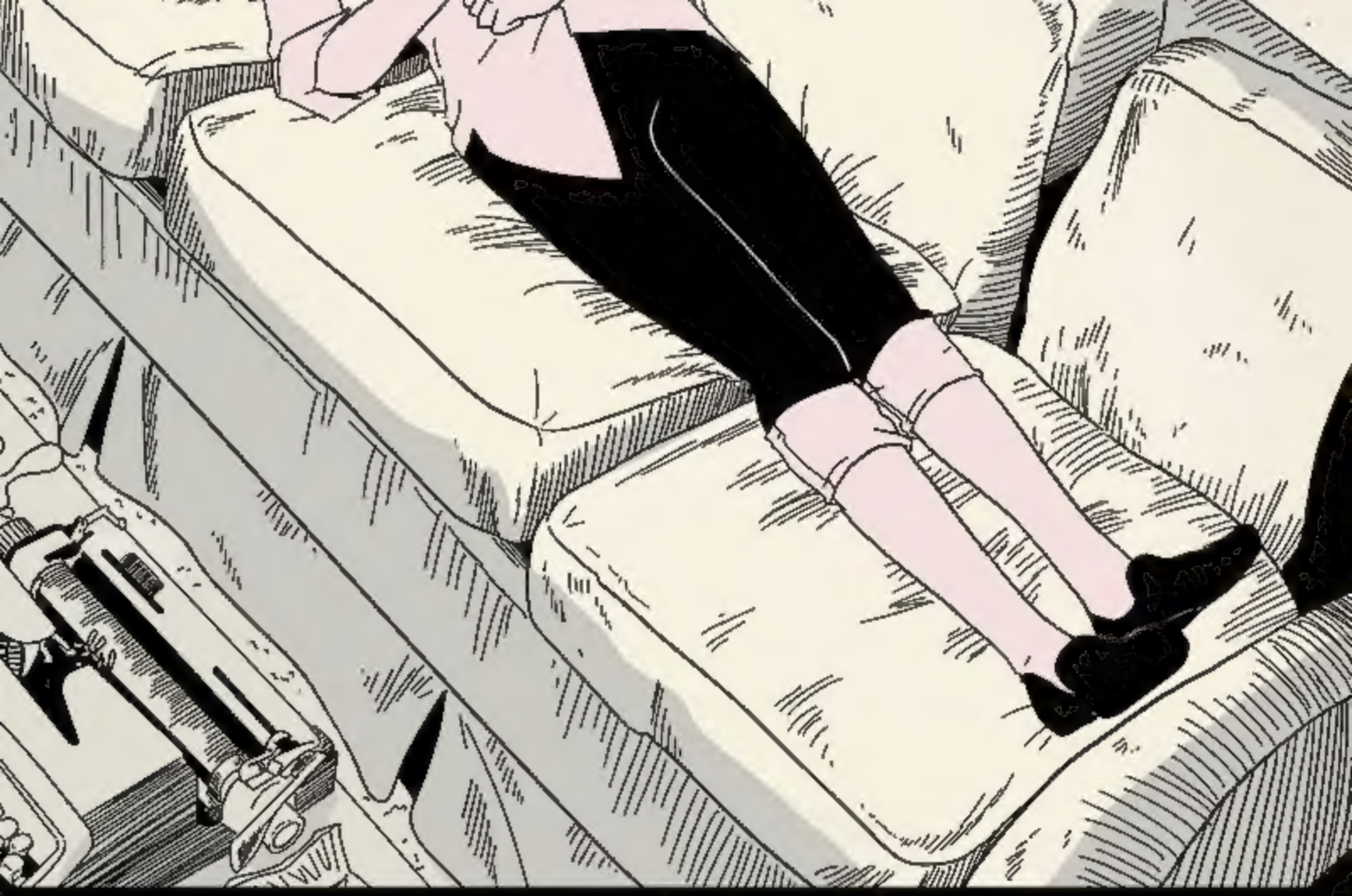




DEAD
MAN'S

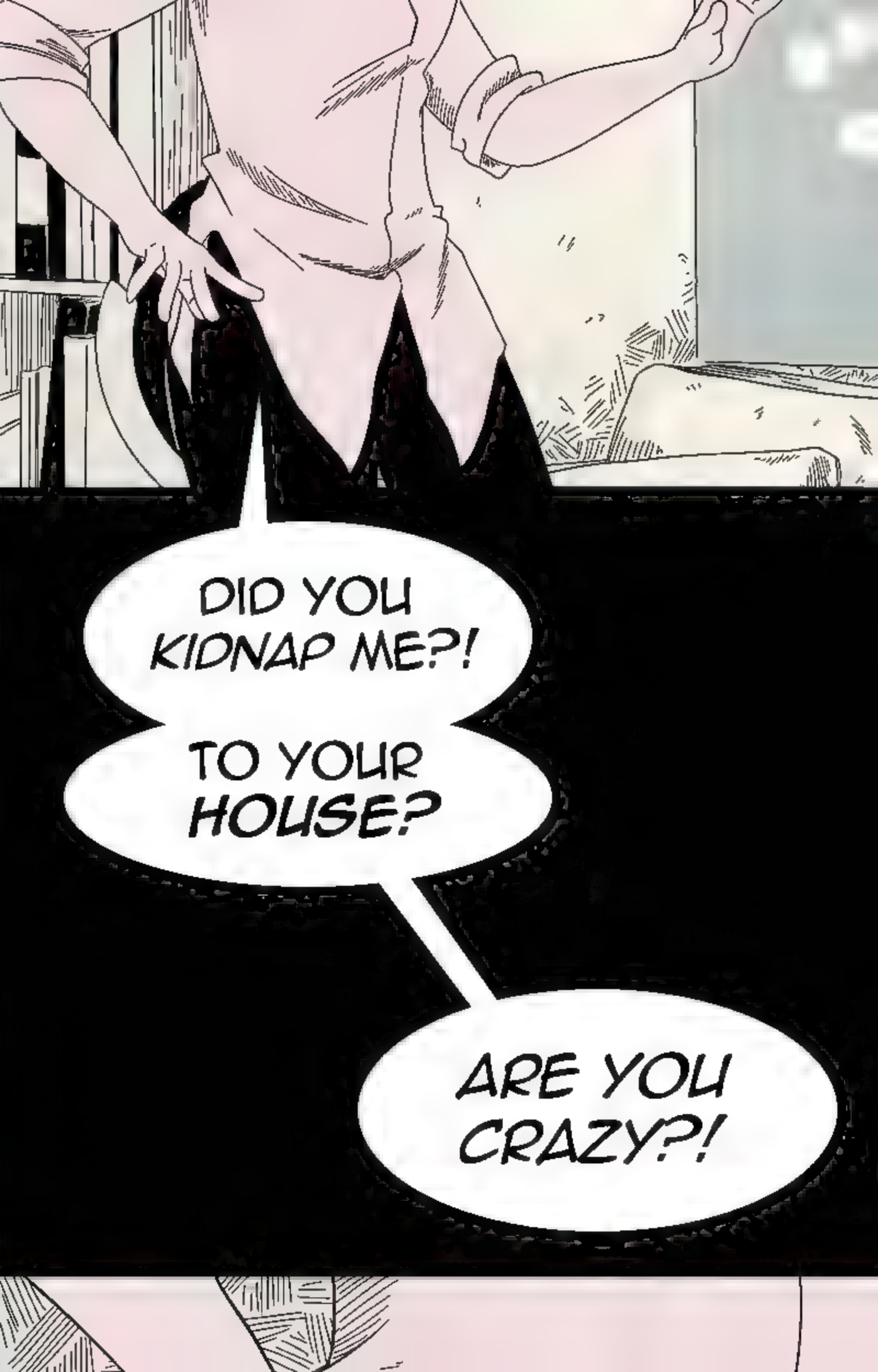
SWITCH 2

MMPH-

UNNGHHH...

FINALLY.
AAAHHH!

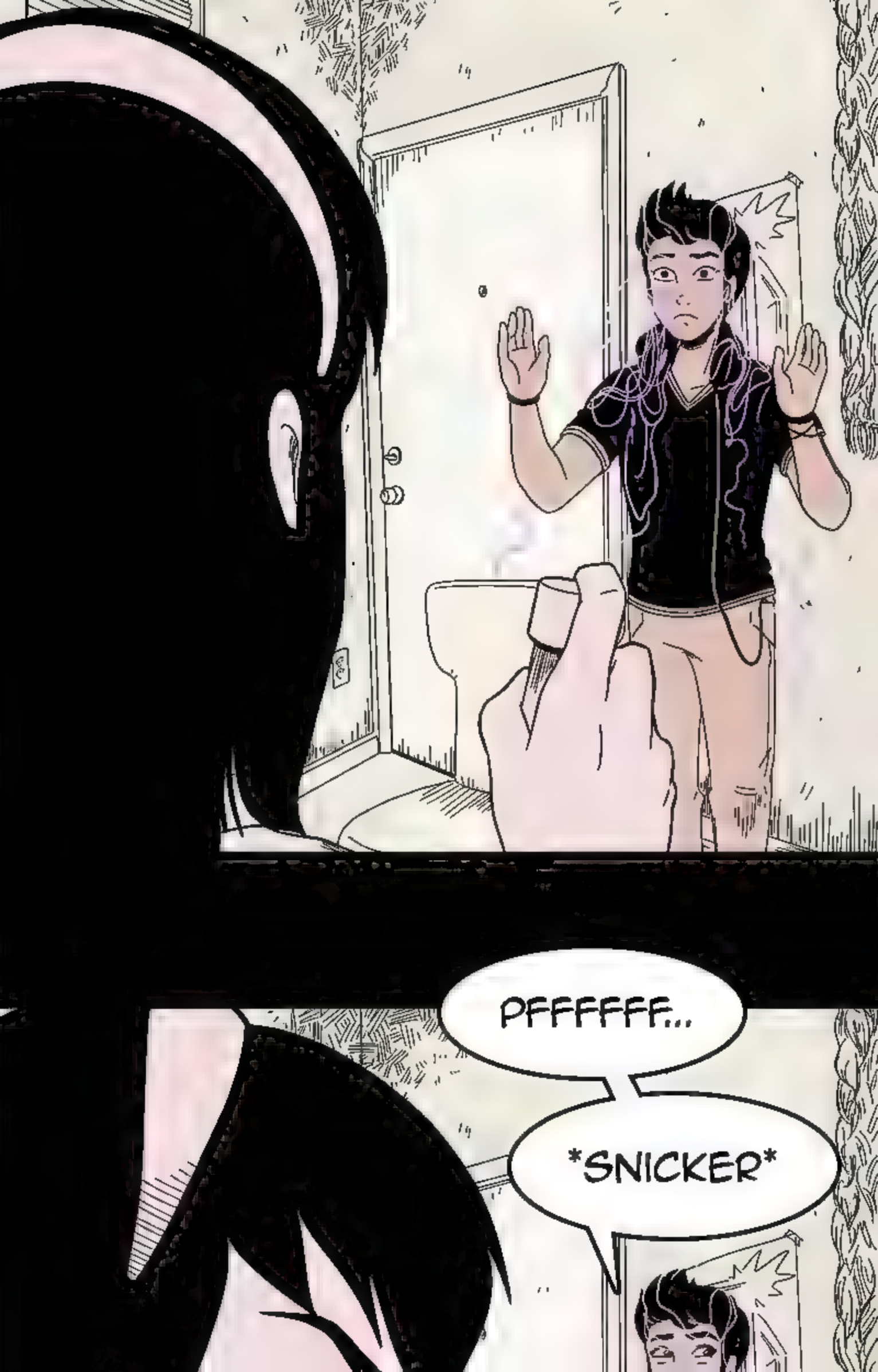
DO YOU HAVE ANY REAL IDEA OF HOW MUCH YOU SNORE?
WHAT...
WHERE IS-
DID YOU-


DID YOU KIDNAP ME?!
TO YOUR HOUSE?
ARE YOU CRAZY?!

SHFF
EAT MACE, PSYCHO!

PSSS

HHHHHH..


PFFFFFF...
SNICKER

WHAT-

CRAZY
STRIN
GIVE ME BACK
MY MACE!

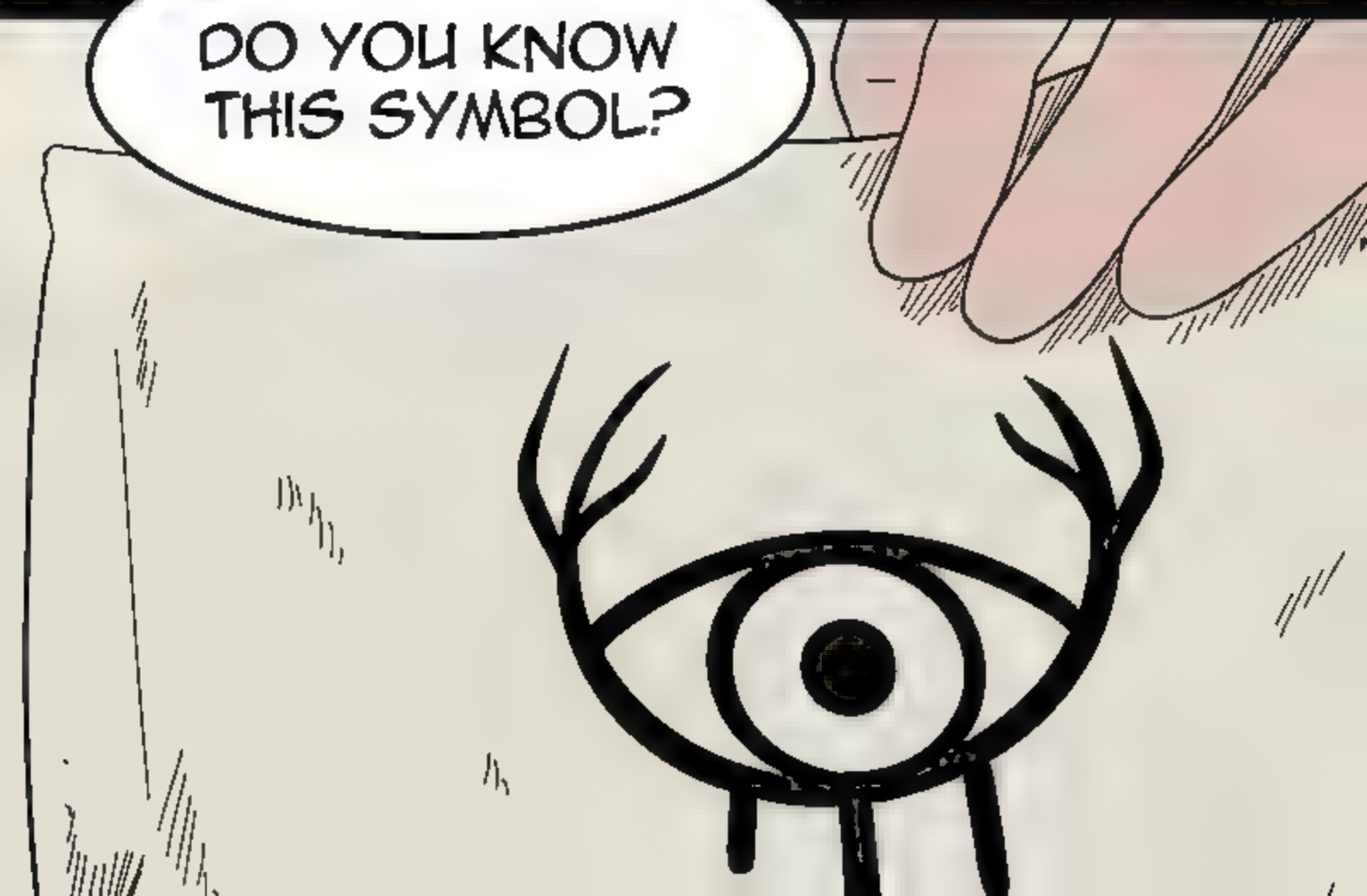
YEAH, I'LL GET RIGHT ON THAT.
CAN YOU PLEASE CALM DOWN? I'M A FRIEND OF JEREMY'S. I DROVE YOU HERE AFTER YOU

PASSED OUT.
WOULDA BROUGHT YOU HOME, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE.
UGH, MY HEAD. IT'S JUST SPLITTING. WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?
YOU HAD-

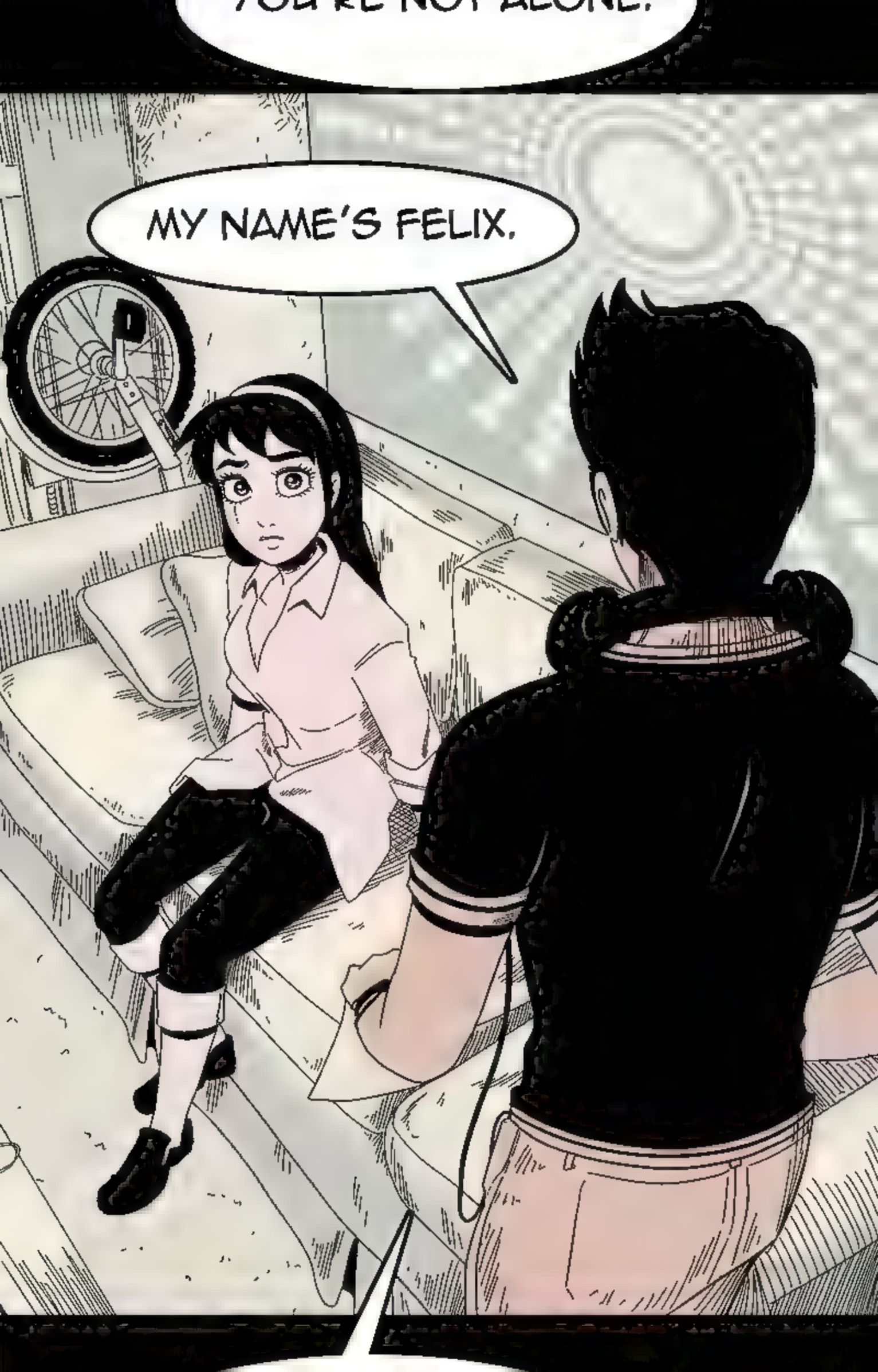
A SORTA...UM, ...AN EPISODE? AFTER I SHOWED YOU THIS PICTURE. WHICH, TO BE CLEAR, JEREMY *TOLD* ME TO DO.

NOT MY FAULT. BUT, LIKE...SUPER SORRY ANYWAY.

DO YOU KNOW THIS SYMBOL?



UH...
YEAH, VAGUELY.
IT WAS IN JEREMY'S
NOTES. BUT...WITHOUT
THE PUPIL IN THE MIDDLE.
WHAT'S GOING
ON HERE?
LOOK, I-
I'M NOT
SURE. I'VE BEEN
GOING THROUGH HELL
MYSELF LATELY, WITH
ALL THIS...WEIRD
STUFF.
YOU'RE NOT ALONE


YOU'RE NOT ALONE.
MY NAME'S FELIX.

I KNOW YOU'RE PRETTY FREAKED OUT RIGHT NOW, BUT YOU HAVE TO HEAR ME OUT ON THIS.

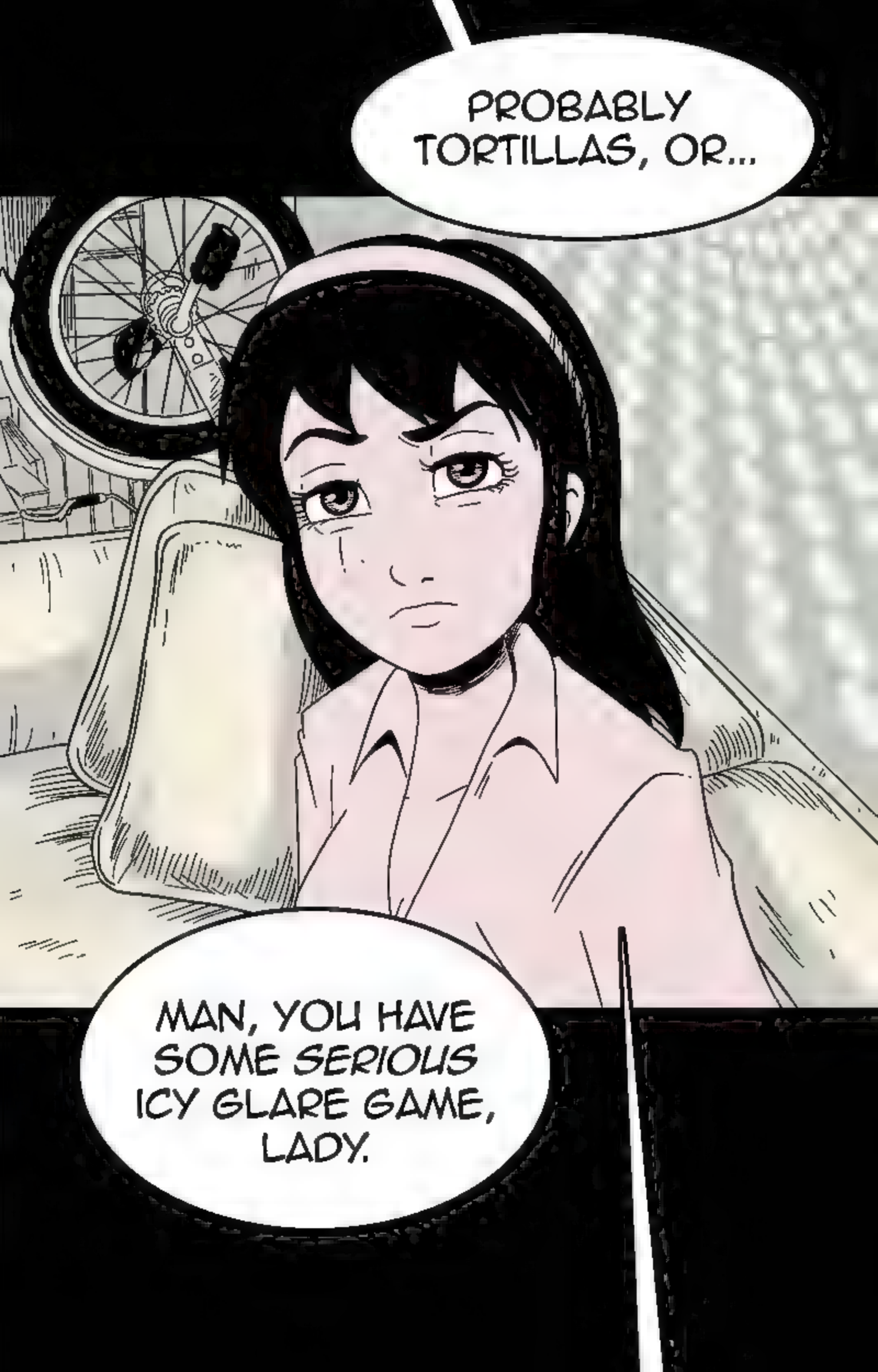
I'M JUST TRYING TO HELP.

IF YOU CAN GIVE ME A FEW MINUTES TO EXPLAIN, THEN YOU CAN MAKE UP YOUR MIND ABOUT ALL THIS AFTERWARD.

JUST-

PLEASE LISTEN.
I NEED YOUR HELP TOO.

PLUS, LISTENING WILL EARN YOU SOME SNACKS.
TRISCOS
YOU LOOK LIKE A TORTILLA KINDA GIRL, AM I RIGHT?

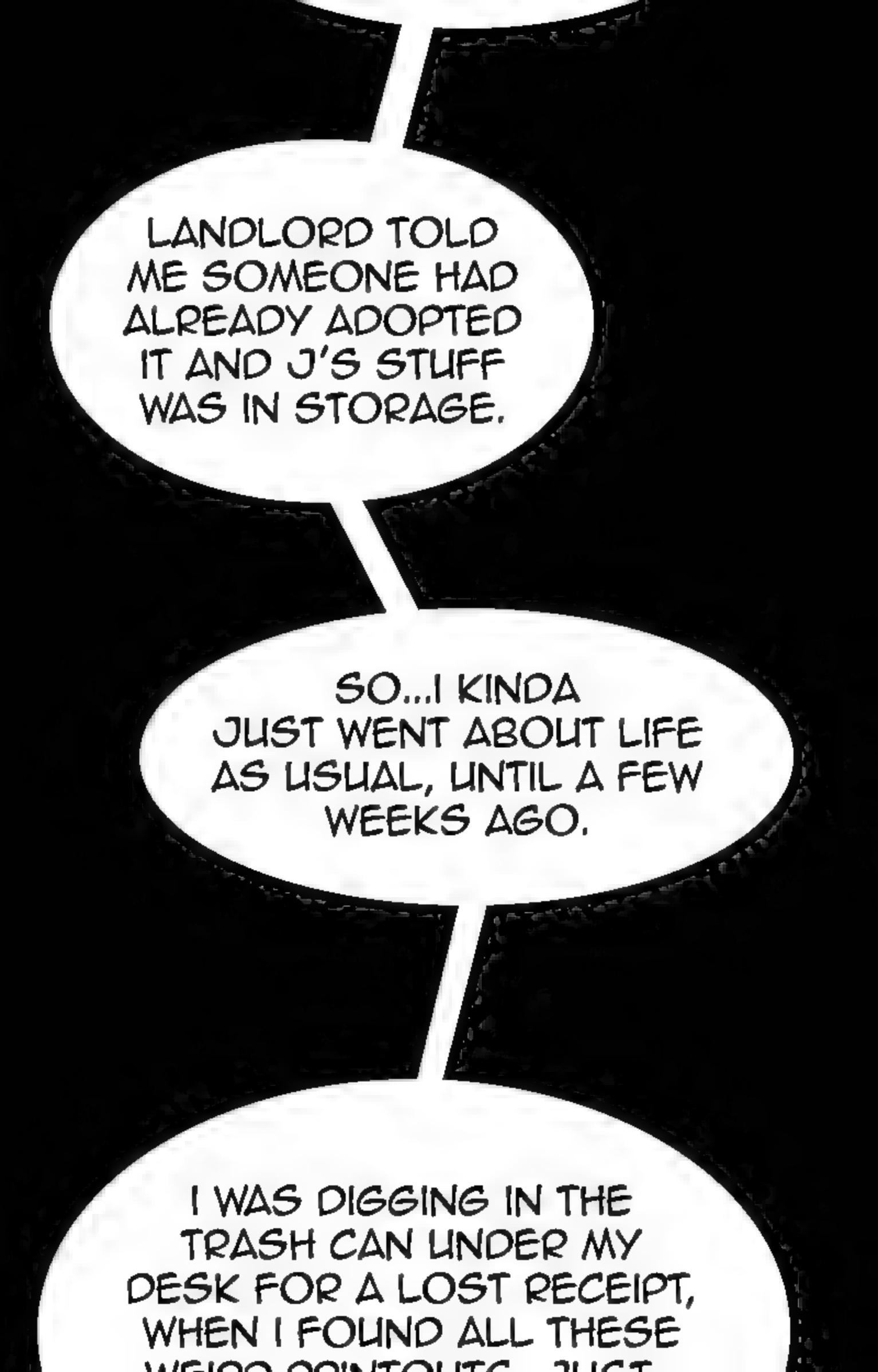

PROBABLY TORTILLAS, OR...
MAN, YOU HAVE SOME *SERIOUS* ICY GLARE GAME, LADY.

JUST START TALKING.

I WAS FRIENDS WITH JEREMY FOR A GOOD LONG WHILE.
NOT LIKE, "BEST MAN AT YOUR WEDDING" FRIENDS, BUT WE HUNG OUT.

HE'D COME OVER, WE'D PLAY VIDEO GAMES, SHOOT THE BREEZE, WHATEVER.
I WAS BLINDSIDED WHEN I HEARD HE DIED.

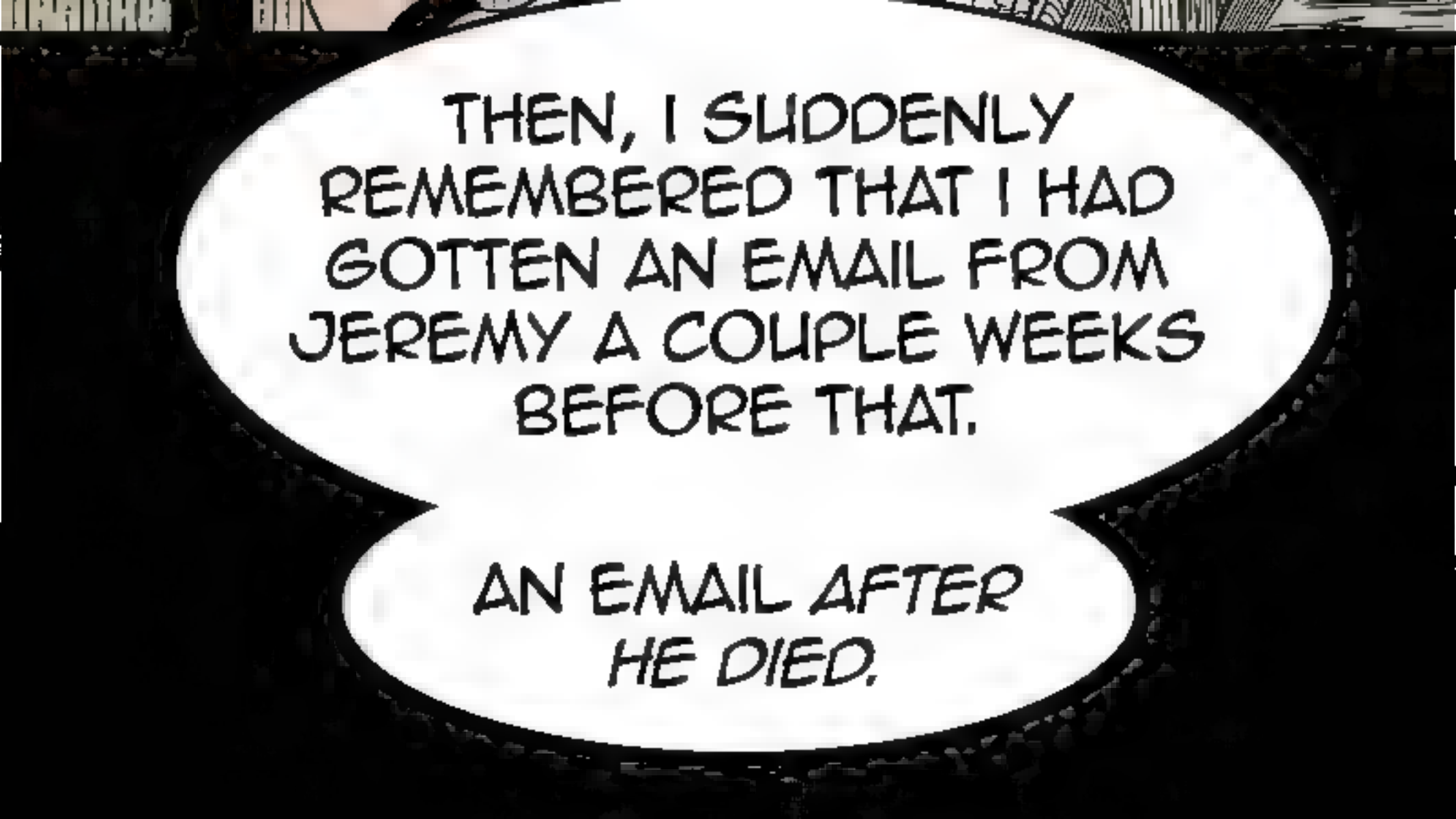
HE ALWAYS HAD THESE CRAZY THEORIES ABOUT BIGFOOT AND STUFF.
I NEVER REALLY PAID TOO MUCH ATTENTION TO ANY OF IT.
AFTER HE DIED, I DROPPED BY HIS PLACE TO TAKE CARE OF HIS CAT. I HAD A SPARE KEY.

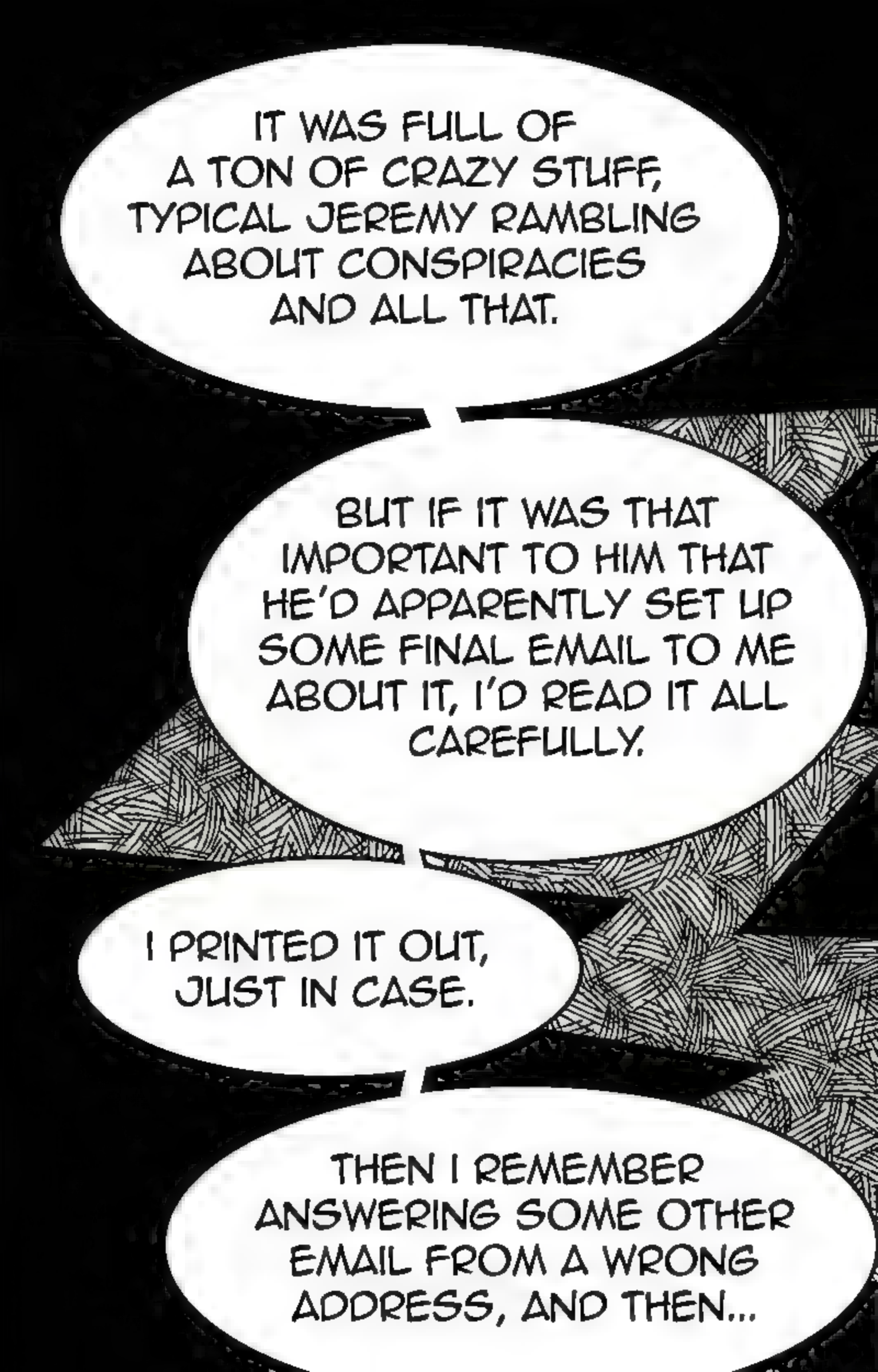

LANDLORD TOLD ME SOMEONE HAD ALREADY ADOPTED IT AND J'S STUFF WAS IN STORAGE.
SO...I KINDA JUST WENT ABOUT LIFE AS USUAL, UNTIL A FEW WEEKS AGO.
I WAS DIGGING IN THE TRASH CAN UNDER MY DESK FOR A LOST RECEIPT, WHEN I FOUND ALL THESE

WEIRD PRINTOUTS. JUST... STUFFED DOWN AT THE BOTTOM OF THE CAN.

JUST LOOKING AT THEM GAVE ME A HEADACHE. I

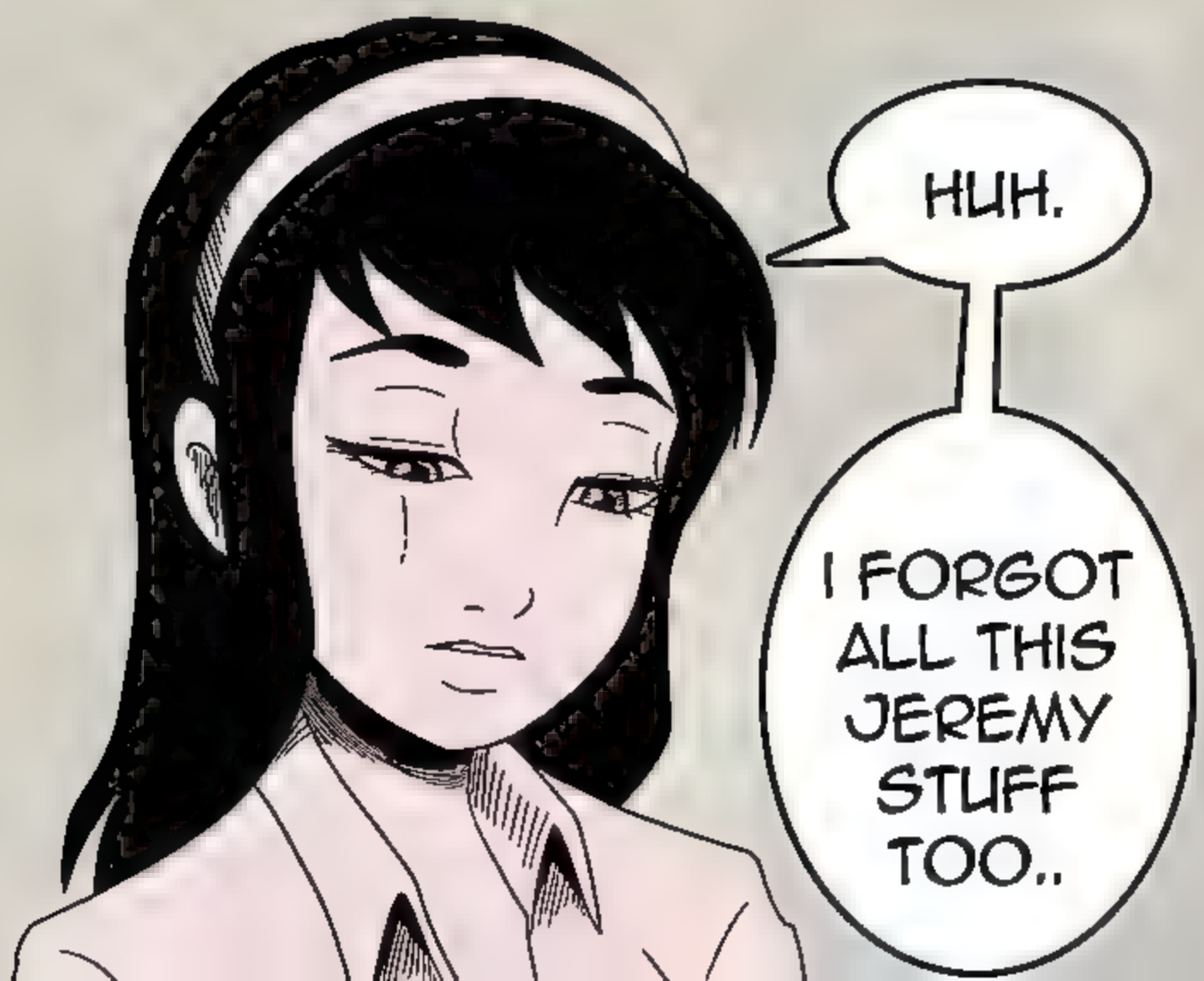
FLIPPED THROUGH AND THERE WAS A COPY OF THAT WEIRD SYMBOL IN THEM.
MY HEAD HURT SO BAD THAT I HAD TO LAY DOWN.
BEEHAW


THEN, I SUDDENLY REMEMBERED THAT I HAD GOTTEN AN EMAIL FROM JEREMY A COUPLE WEEKS BEFORE THAT.
AN EMAIL *AFTER* *HE DIED.*

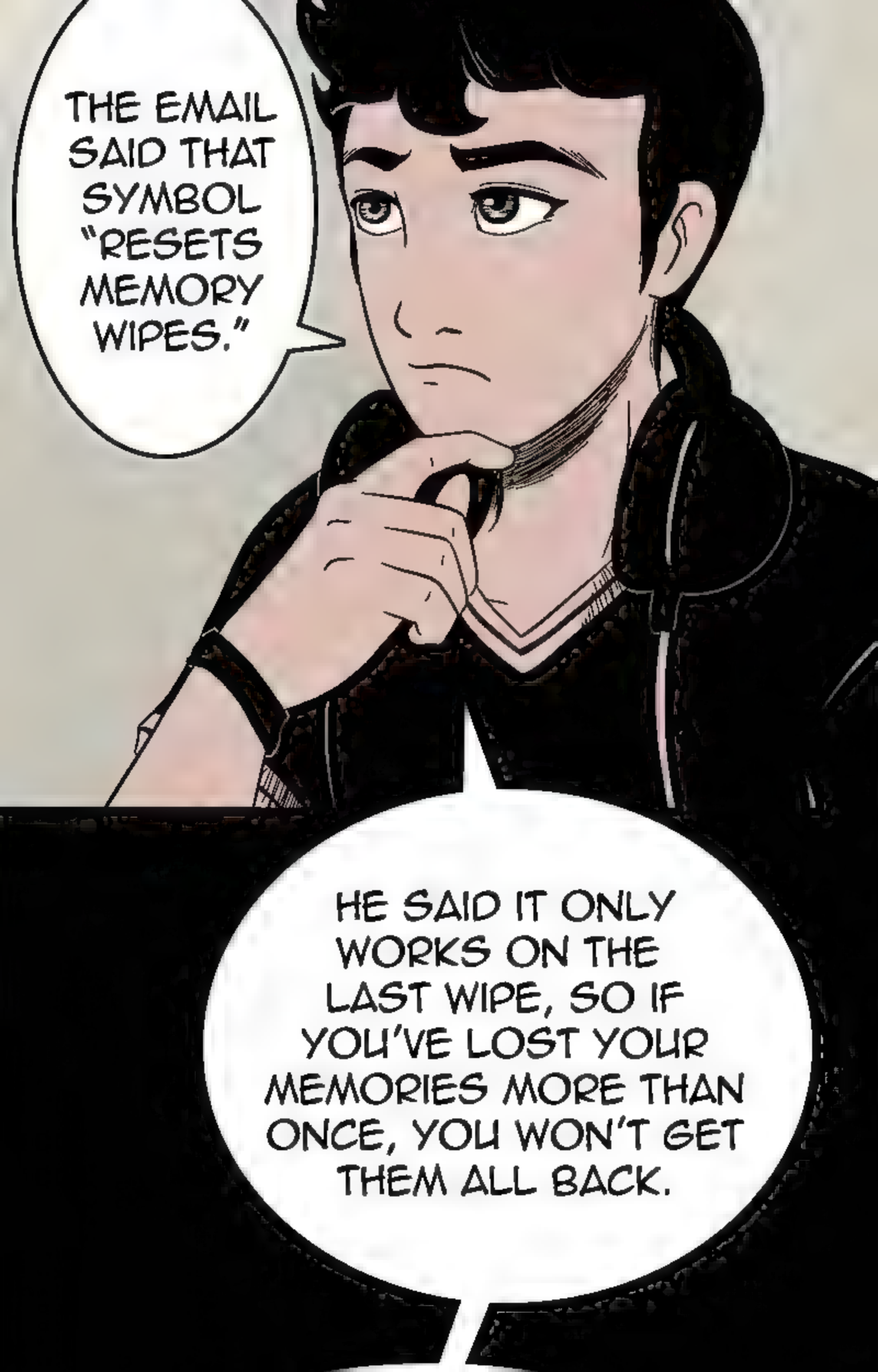

IT WAS FULL OF A TON OF CRAZY STUFF, TYPICAL JEREMY RAMBLING ABOUT CONSPIRACIES AND ALL THAT.
BUT IF IT WAS THAT IMPORTANT TO HIM THAT HE'D APPARENTLY SET UP SOME FINAL EMAIL TO ME ABOUT IT, I'D READ IT ALL CAREFULLY.
I PRINTED IT OUT, JUST IN CASE.
THEN I REMEMBER ANSWERING SOME OTHER EMAIL FROM A WRONG ADDRESS, AND THEN...

I GOT A BAD HEADACHE. I DELETED JEREMY'S EMAIL FOR SOME REASON.

I TOOK THE PRINTOUTS, STUFFED THEM IN THE TRASH AND FORGOT THEY EXISTED, UNTIL I FOUND THEM AGAIN.



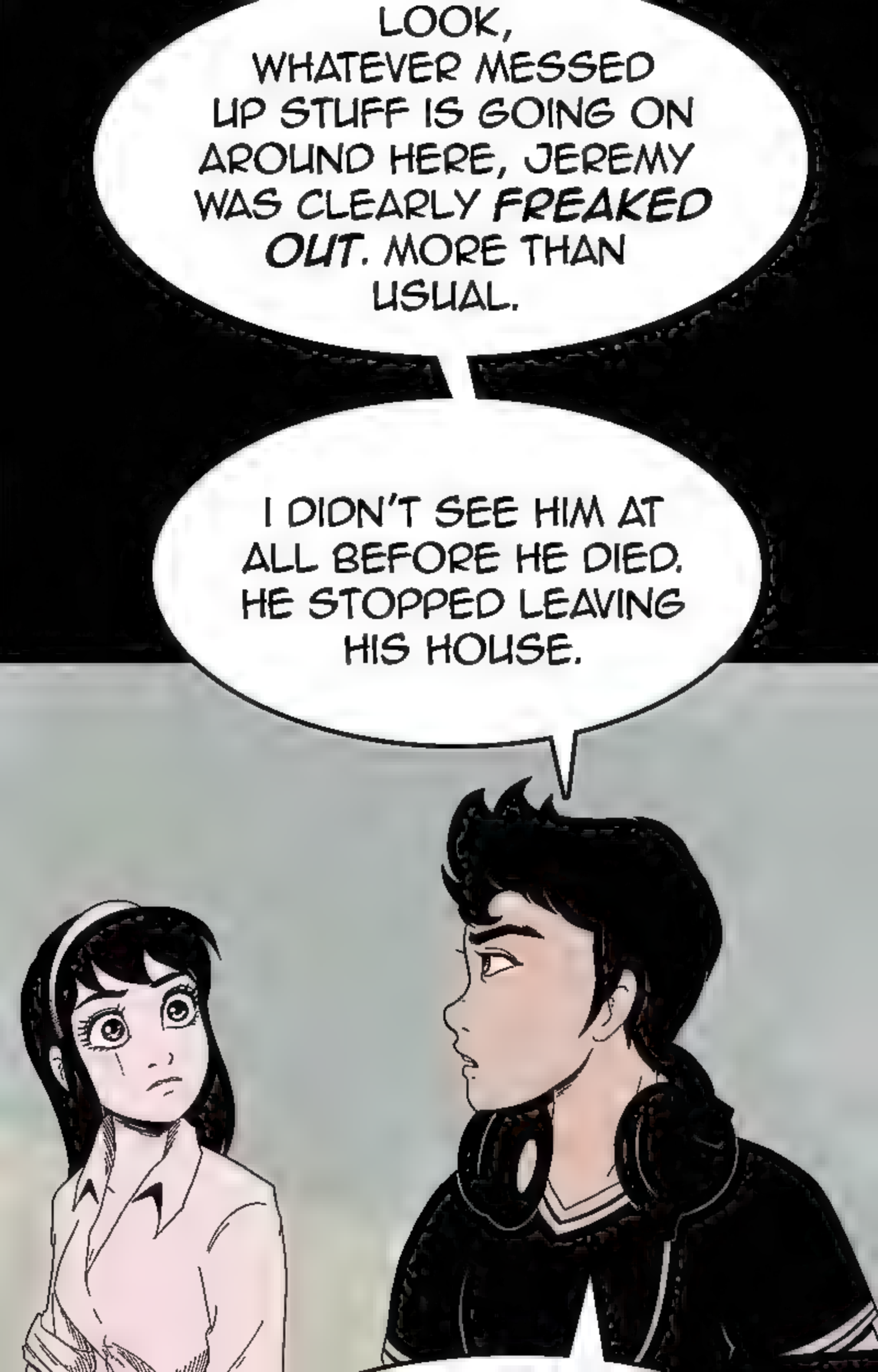
BUT THEN, WHEN YOU SHOWED ME THIS SYMBOL IN THE CAR, I REMEMBERED.
AND... OTHER STUFF TOO. THERE WERE OTHER THINGS. CAN'T RECALL THEM NOW, THOUGH.


THE EMAIL SAID THAT SYMBOL "RESETS MEMORY WIPES."
HE SAID IT ONLY WORKS ON THE LAST WIPE, SO IF YOU'VE LOST YOUR MEMORIES MORE THAN ONCE, YOU WON'T GET THEM ALL BACK.

HONESTLY, I'VE BEEN FEELING WEIRD FOR A LONG TIME. THIS WHOLE "MEMORY WIPE" THING JUST PROVES IT.

JEREMY SAID THIS SYMBOL WAS MADE BY SOMEONE "BEFORE HIM," AS PROTECTION.

HE KEPT WARNING ME IN THE EMAIL TO KEEP IT CLOSE...AND TO FIND YOU AND USE IT, BECAUSE THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE GOING ON IN THIS TOWN.
NO DUH.
SHUSH, LEMME FINISH.


LOOK, WHATEVER MESSED UP STUFF IS GOING ON AROUND HERE, JEREMY WAS CLEARLY FREAKED OUT. MORE THAN USUAL.
I DIDN'T SEE HIM AT ALL BEFORE HE DIED. HE STOPPED LEAVING HIS HOUSE.

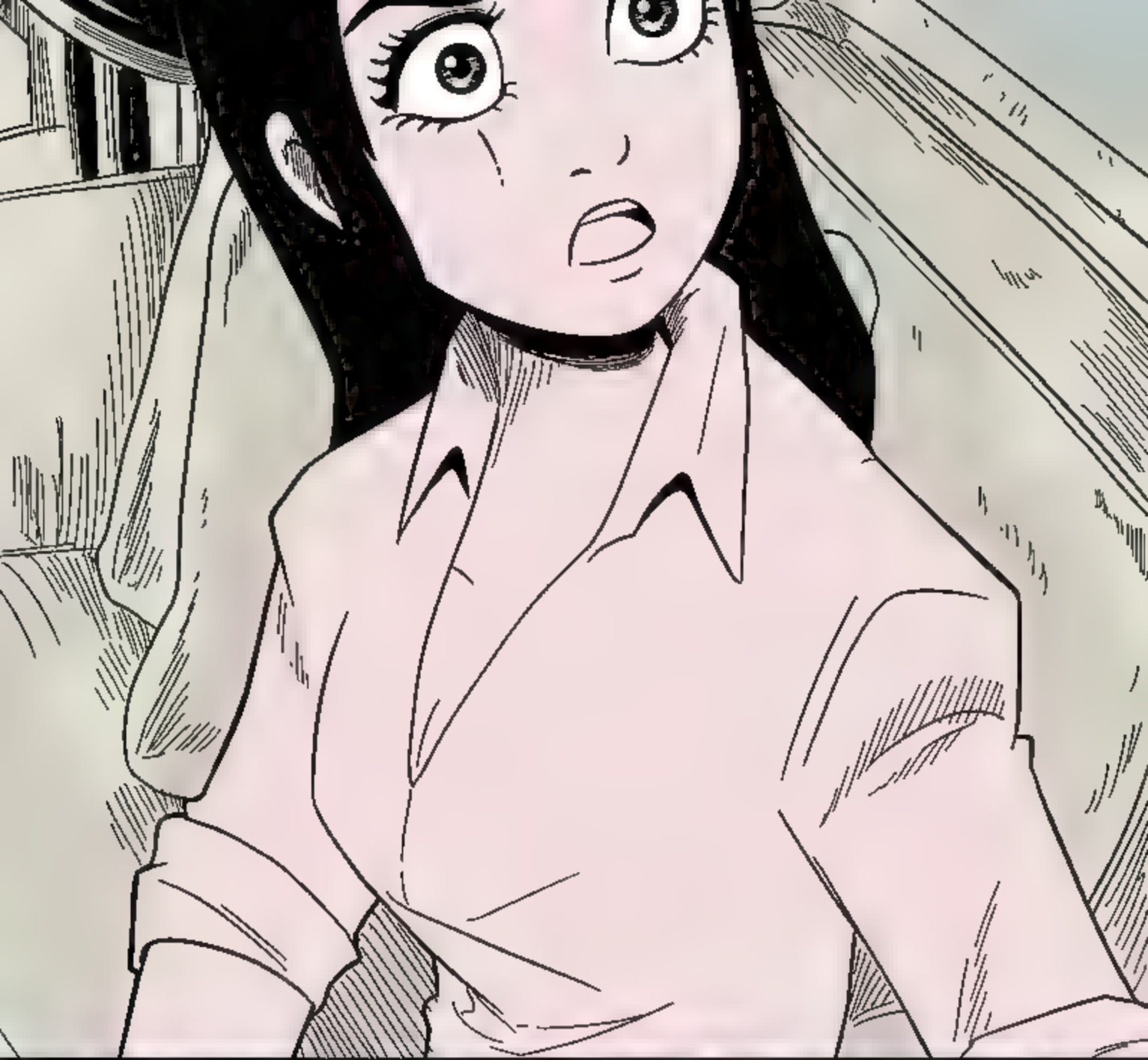
AND AFTER THIS WHOLE MEMORY THING, I THINK HE WAS RIGHT TO BE AFRAID.

HELL, I ALWAYS THOUGHT EVERYONE IGNORED JEREMY'S RANTINGS, ME INCLUDED.

WHAT IF WE *DIDN'T*? WE JUST FORGOT, OR WERE *MADE* TO FORGET?

THAT'S... REALLY SCARY.
I KNOW.
I GET WHY J ASKED FOR ME TO TATTOO HIM A FEW MONTHS BEFORE HE DIED.

WAIT, YOU WHAT?
YOU TATTOOED JEREMY?
WELL YEAH, I HAVE A KIT I BOUGHT OFF A FRIEND OF MI-
WHAT TATTOO?



THAT SYMBOL, FROM THE EMAIL!

I'VE BEEN THINKING FOR A WHILE ABOUT GETTING INTO TATTOO ART AND STARTING UP

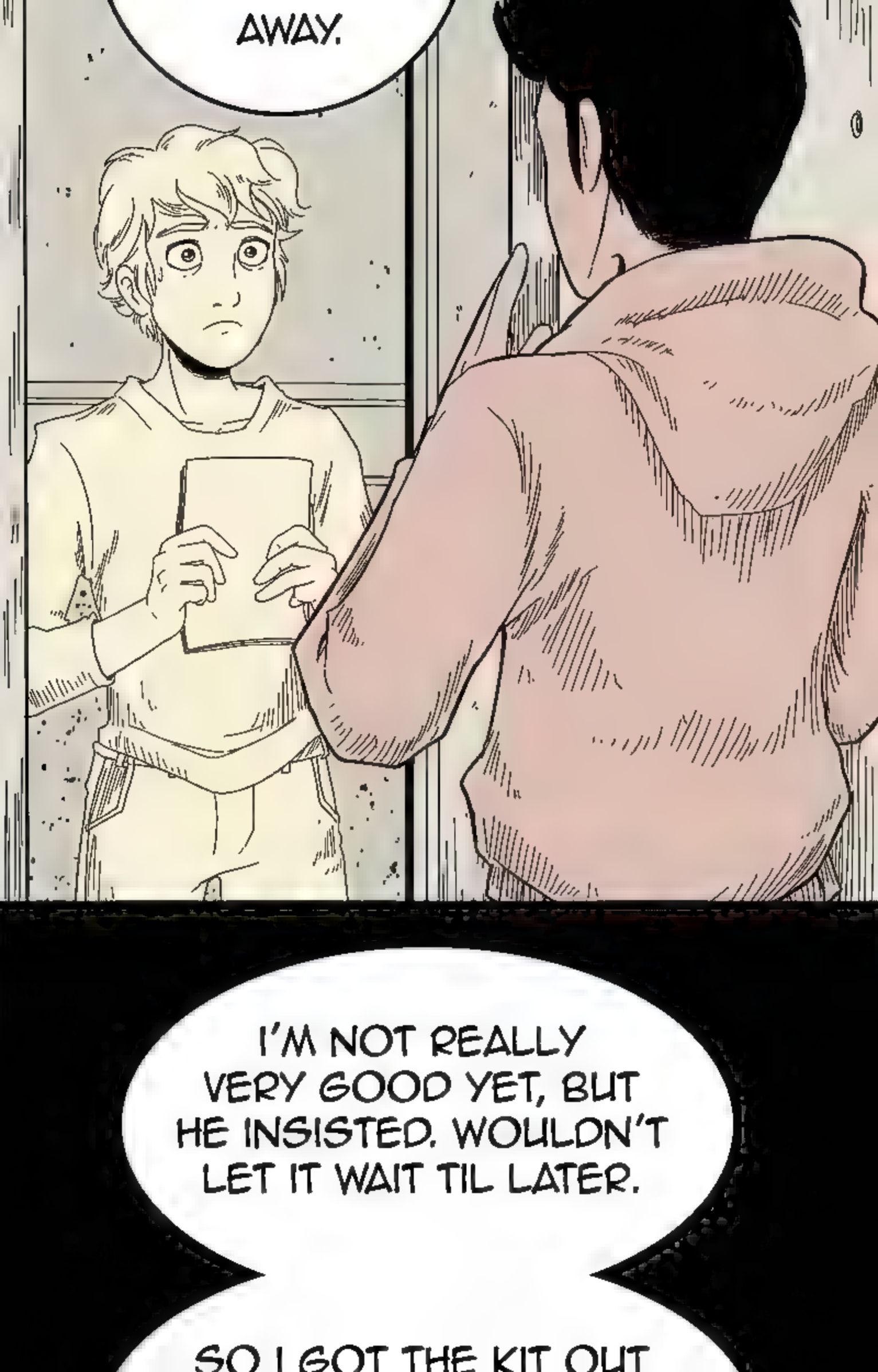
A SIDE BUSINESS.

I TOLD J
I'D GOT A KIT
USED OFF A FRIEND
A WHILE BACK.

DIDN'T REALLY COME
UP AGAIN FOR AWHILE. BUT
THEN ONE NIGHT, HE CAME
OVER ALL NERVOUS AND
PARANOID.

KEPT LOOKING OVER
HIS SHOULDER.

ASKED
IF I WOULD
GIVE HIM A
TATTOO RIGHT


AWAY.
I'M NOT REALLY VERY GOOD YET, BUT HE INSISTED. WOULDN'T LET IT WAIT TIL LATER.
SO I GOT THE KIT OUT

AND PUT THAT SYMBOL ON HIM. HE WANTED IT ON HIS STOMACH.
"SO I CAN SEE IT EASILY," HE SAID. "JUST IN CASE."

THOUGHT THAT WAS WEIRD AT THE TIME, BUT IT'S STARTING TO MAKE MORE SENSE NOW.
I SHOULDA LISTENED TO HIM MORE.
HE CARED SO MUCH ABOUT EVERYONE'S SAFETY, AND THEY ALL JUST CALLED HIM CRAZY.

ANYWAY...
THE EMAIL SAID
IT'S A "DEAD MAN'S SWITCH."
SOMETHING THAT ACTIVATES
WHEN THE PERSON IN CHARGE
OF IT IS NO LONGER
AROUND.

APPARENTLY IT WAS ACTIVATED WHEN SOME FELLOW CONSPIRACY PEOPLE ON HIS BLOG NOTED HE WENT MISSING AT SOME POINT.

IT WAS INTENDED TO GO TO ME SHOULD THE WORST HAPPEN.
I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING ELSE ONLINE ABOUT IT. I CHECKED HIS BLOG, BUT IT'S BEEN NUKED.

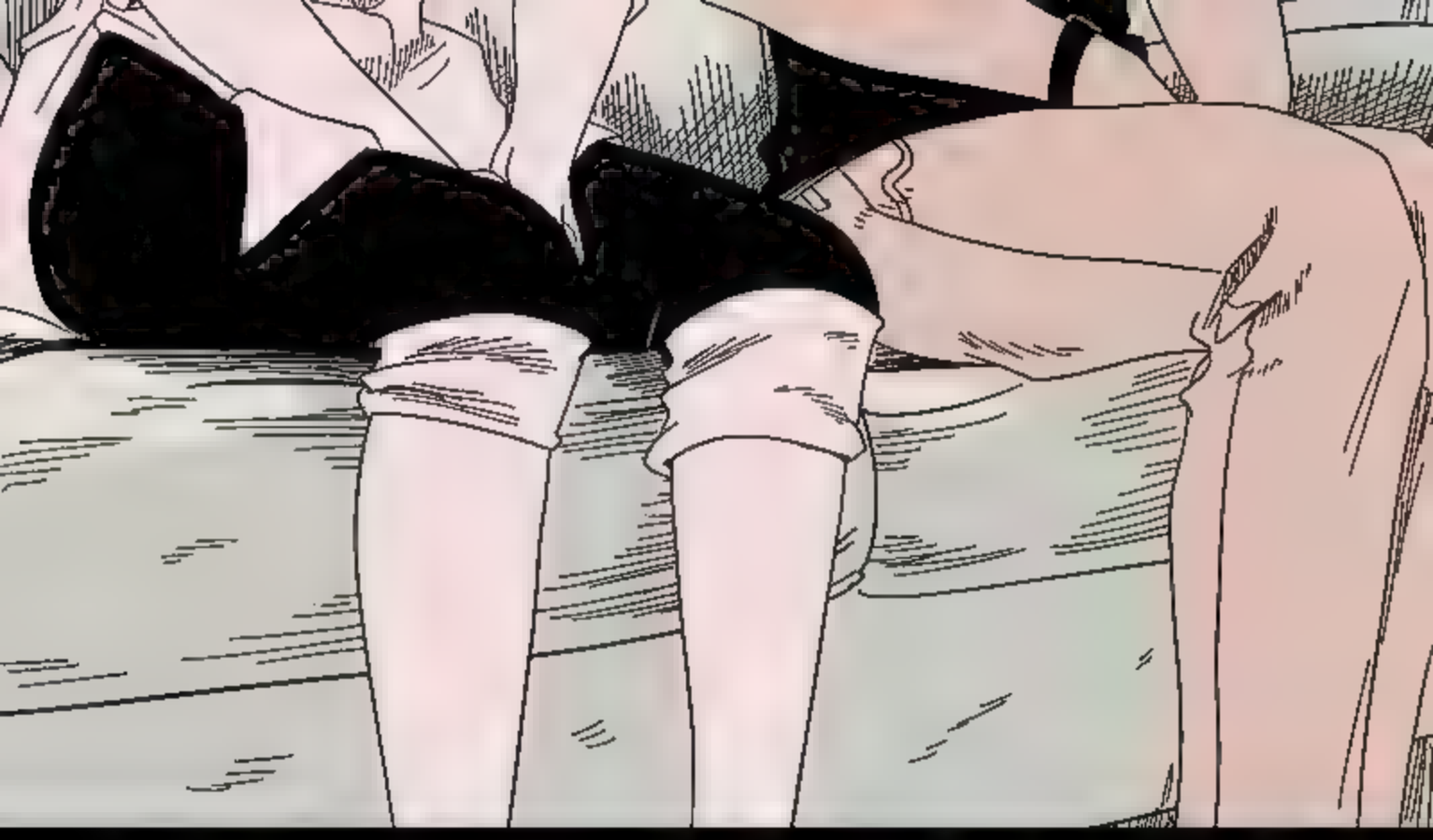
SO ALL WE HAVE TO GO ON NOW IS THIS EMAIL AND WHATEVER NOTES HE LEFT BEHIND.
I, UM...HAVE A LOT OF HIS OLD NOTES. I COULD TRY LOOKING AT THEM AGAIN.
I WAS WITH HIM WHEN HE DIED.
I WISH I COULD HAVE STOPPED IT.
I FEEL SO GUILTY.

THE MORE I LEARN ABOUT JEREMY, THE MORE I REALIZE HOW MUCH SMARTER HE WAS

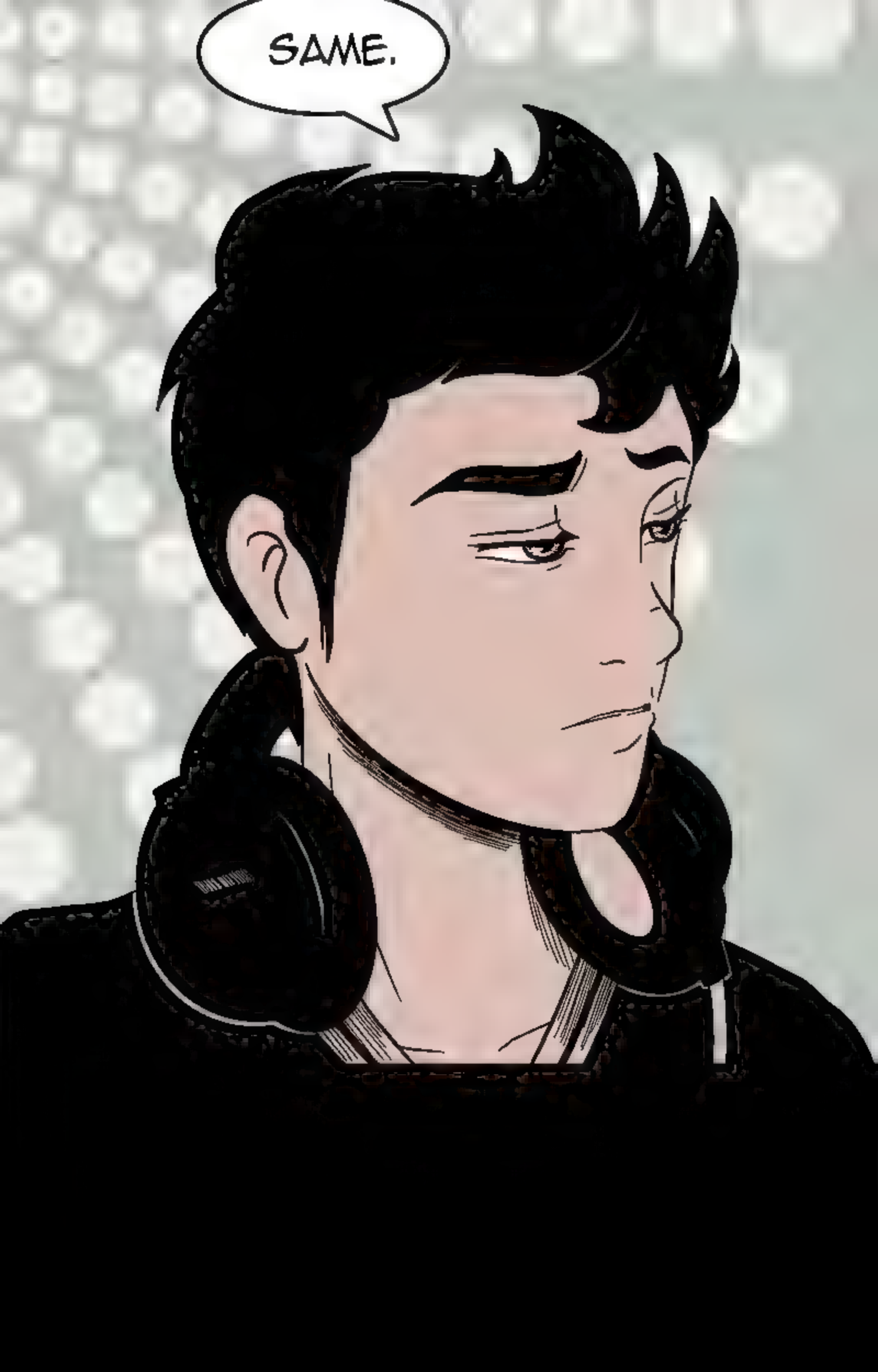
THAN I ASSUMED.

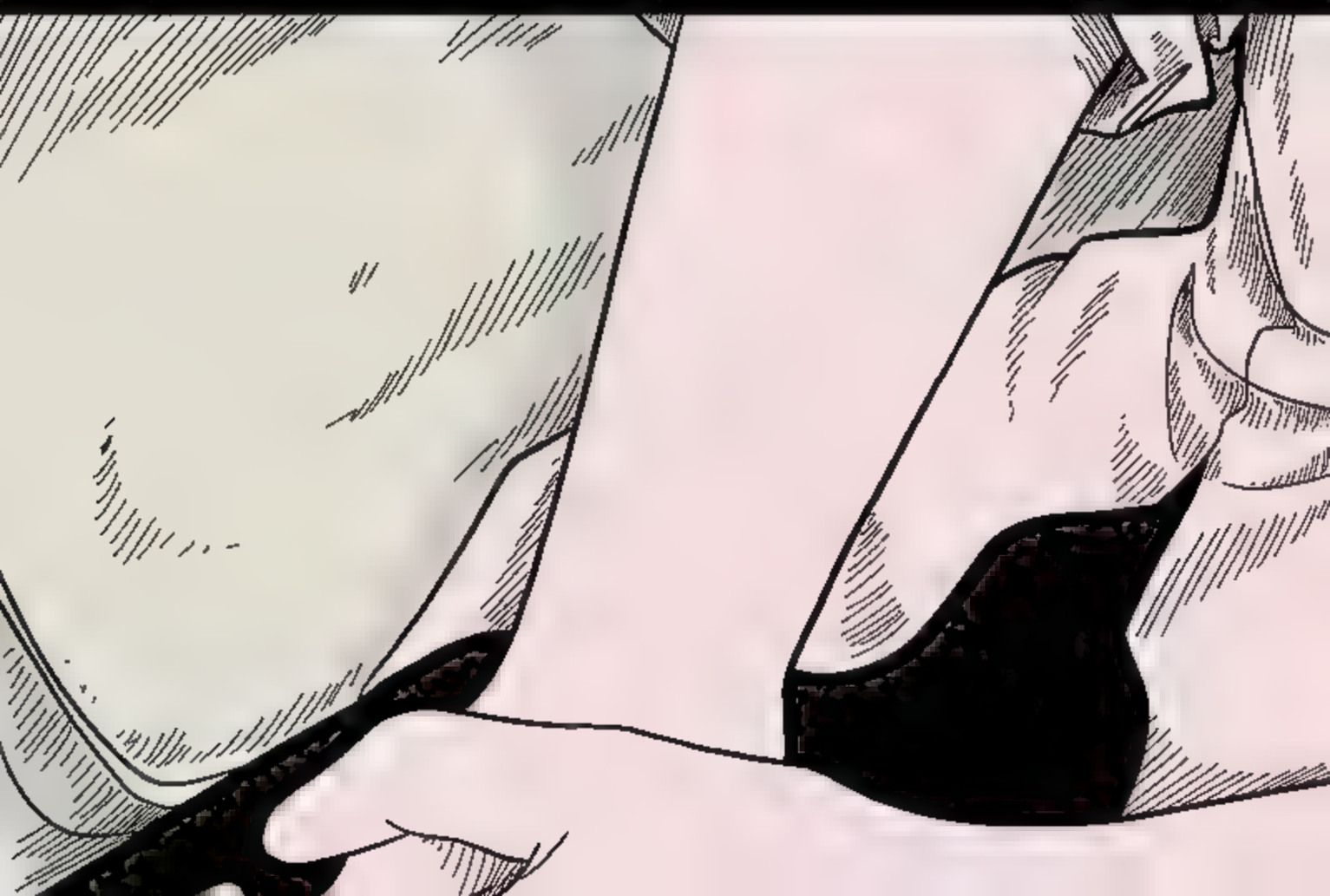
AND...
HOW LONELY HIS WORK WAS. HE HAD NOBODY TO RELY ON. AND HE WENT THROUGH SOME HORRIFIC THINGS.

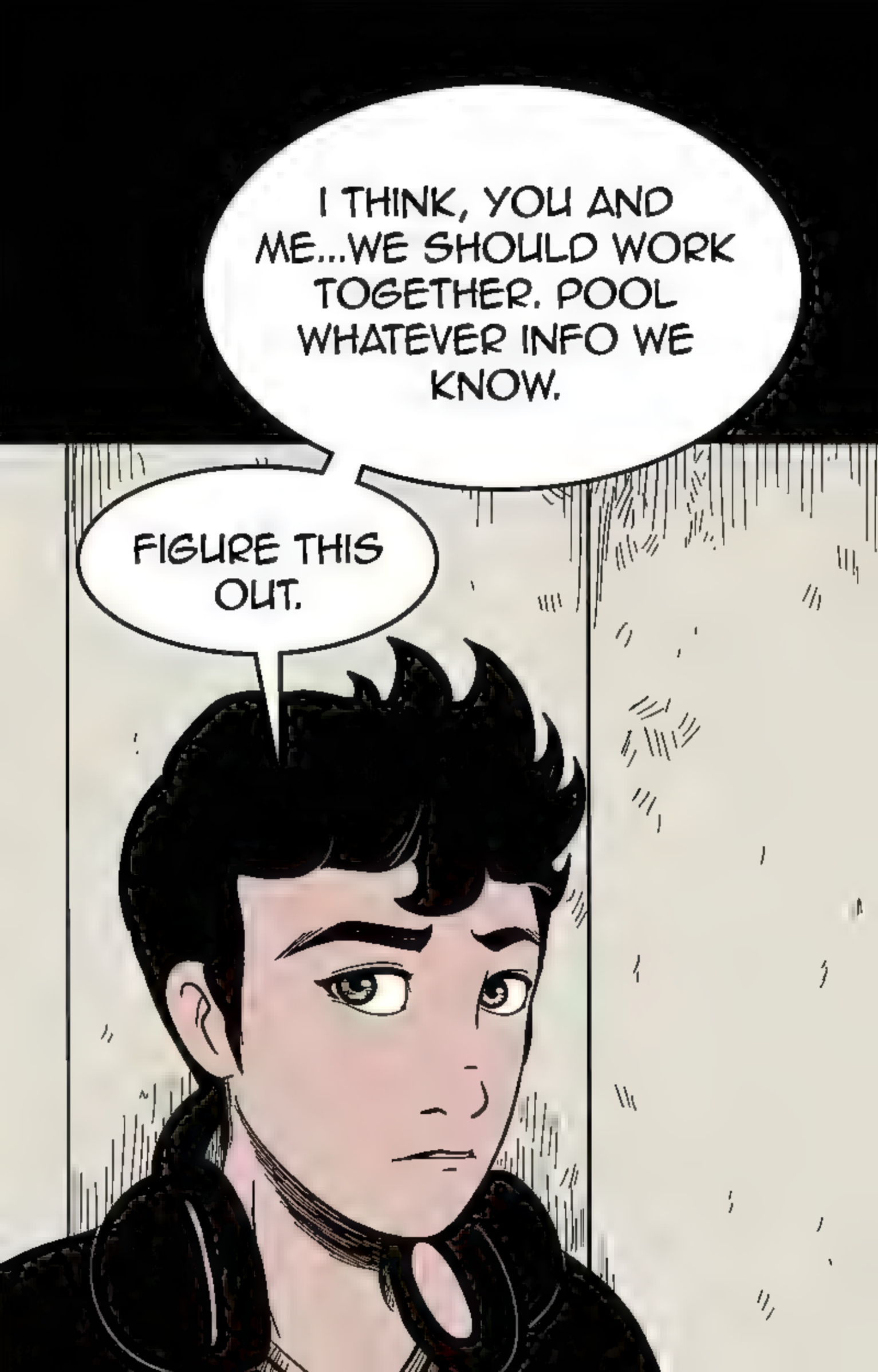
I...SHOULD HAVE TALKED TO HIM MORE.



YEAH.


SAME.




I THINK, YOU AND ME...WE SHOULD WORK TOGETHER. POOL WHATEVER INFO WE KNOW.
FIGURE THIS OUT.

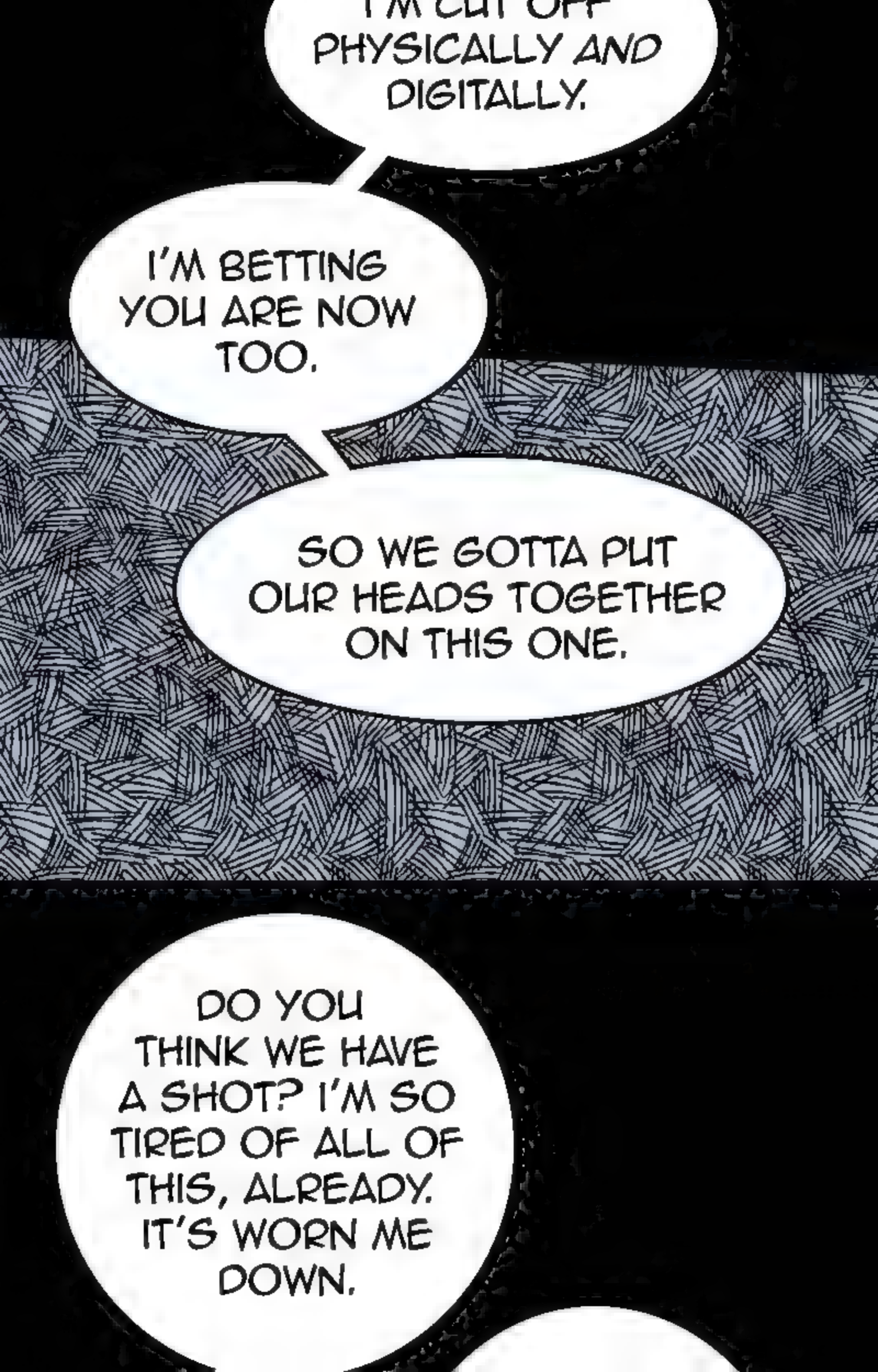
BECAUSE I DON'T BELIEVE WE CAN LEAVE TOWN, NOT BY THE USUAL ROAD.
I TRIED. GOT TURNED AROUND OVER AND OVER, EVEN THOUGH I KNOW THAT ROAD WELL.
IF WE DON'T TRY TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS, NEITHER OF US IS GOING TO ESCAPE.
AND I DON'T WANT TO

BE TRAPPED HERE WITH WHATEVER THE HELL IS DOING THIS.

I KNOW... I KNOW. I TRIED TO LEAVE TOO.

BUT WHAT ABOUT CALLING FOR HELP? 911? HELL, CALL IN A BOMB THREAT IF THEY DON'T BELIEVE US! THEN THEY'D HAVE TO COME!
IMMORAL *AND* A FELONY, I LIKE HOW YOU THINK, FRANKLES.
BUT I'VE BEEN CUT OFF FROM INTERNET AND ANY PHONE NUMBERS OUTSIDE OF TOWN FOR WEEKS NOW.

I CAN SEE WEBSITES, BUT I CAN'T TYPE ANY MESSAGES ON THEM.


I'M CUT OFF PHYSICALLY AND DIGITALLY.
I'M BETTING YOU ARE NOW TOO.
SO WE GOTTA PUT OUR HEADS TOGETHER ON THIS ONE.
DO YOU THINK WE HAVE A SHOT? I'M SO TIRED OF ALL OF THIS, ALREADY. IT'S WORN ME DOWN.

DUNNO. BUT IF JEREMY COULD DO IT, SO CAN WE. PROBABLY. MAYBE. ISH.

FINE. PARTNERS?
PARTNERS.